

LET'S TALK ABOUT TREES!

Let's set the record
straight on the
rumors circulating
about trees and talk
about the facts!



OUR ROOTS
CHICAGO

I've Heard

Trees break and crack sidewalks and create plumbing issues

Trees increase crime

Trees are high maintenance and costly to maintain

Planting more trees will disrupt our natural ecosystem

Trees are dangerous for homes. They can damage property

Let's Talk About It!

- Tree roots do not break pipes, but rather, broken pipes attract tree roots due to moisture in the pipes.
- Did you know that tree roots only go down 2-3 feet?

- There are no scientific studies that prove that trees increase crime. Studies actually show that tree lined streets have lower crime rates.

- Taking care of trees takes less time and money than taking care of grass because you don't need a lawnmower that requires maintenance, gas, oil, and/or electricity.
- The City will trim your parkway tree at no cost to you. You can contact 311 or visit 311.chicago.gov to report a service request.
- Did you know you can rake leaves to the base of the tree in the fall and leave them there as mulch for the winter and spring months?

- Trees provide oxygen, improve air quality, help keep soil in place, and absorb water which prevents flooding.
- Trees also absorb carbon and attract a lot of wildlife such as birds that feed on insects like mosquitoes.

- Trees that are not properly maintained may have weaker limbs.
- Trees can protect your home from flooding.
- They can also lower your air conditioning costs by providing shade and lowering air temperature. Trees can block cold winds in the winter lowering your heating costs.

Now that you know the facts, find more information on how you can request a free parkway tree by visiting chicago.gov/OurRoots